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Development of a global map for sustainable development

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report of the working group tasked with considering the development of a global map for sustainable development. The report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the development of a global map for sustainable development.

Summary of the report

At its second session, held in August 2012, the Committee of Experts noted the importance of reliable geospatial information in the context of sustainable development, as set out in "The future we want", the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012.

In recognizing the need to provide the information base to inform the sustainable development agenda, the Committee of Experts requested that a working group be formed, comprising Member States, international organizations and the private sector, to guide the work involved in developing a global map for sustainable development. Established in December 2012, the working group initiated a dialogue with the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management at a special session convened to address the issue during the second High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, held in Doha, Qatar, from 4 to 6 February 2013.

* E/C.20/2013/1.

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In its report, the working group describes the dialogue held in Doha; provides the agreed terms of reference of the working group; introduces an initial road map for consideration; provides a peer review of the existing Global Map project; considers urban hazard and disaster mapping as a key input into the development of a global map for sustainable development; and describes planned activities to meet the needs of Member States and international organizations in developing a global map for sustainable development.